

Appl. No. 09/730,547

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

The only outstanding issue is the rejections of claims 53 to 55. These claims have been cancelled rendering the objection moot.

As such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to allow the application.

**INTERVIEW SUMMARY**

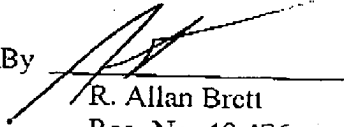
Page 2 of the Office Action, however, also refers to a Request for Continued Examination filed in this application after final rejection and to the timely payment of the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e). No Request for Continued Examination was filed in this application and payment of the associated fee was not submitted. In a telephone conference with the Examiner on January 9, 2008, the Examiner confirmed the reference to the RCE was in error, but that the Office Action is still correctly a non-final Action.

In view of the foregoing, early favorable consideration of this application is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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RAB:sng